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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE SURRENDER OF THE LICENSE OF

NICOLE C. TURNER License # 22 HI 00676000

TO PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENE IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF LICENSE TO PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENE

This matter was initially opened to the State Board of Dentistry upon the application of Nicole C. Turner ("Ms. Turner" or "respondent") in July 2006 for reinstatement of her dental hygiene license. Ms. Turner had been initially licensed to practice dental hygiene in July 1996. Her license expired in December 2002. On her reinstatement application, respondent disclosed that in 2002 she had been convicted of a crime in Ocean County, New Jersey, specifically, obtaining controlled dangerous substances by fraud.

Respondent appeared before the Board on December 6, 2006, represented by Laurence Leff, Esq. She testified that she had written prescriptions for herself due to a medical condition. She was reinstated in March 2007 with conditions. Pursuant to the terms of her agreement with the Board, Ms. Turner was to have demonstrated current competencies, and to have enrolled in the Professional Assistance Program, and followed the recommendations of that program, including abstaining from all mood altering substances.

The Board has now received information that respondent has not enrolled in the Professional Assistance Program, and has, therefore, failed to comply with the terms of her agreement with the Board. Further, the Board has received information that respondent was arrested on February 28, 2008, and charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and shop lifting, and arrested again on April 4, 2008, and charged with one count of theft, both arrests occurring in the Township of Roxbury, New Jersey.

The Board has considered that information and has determined that Ms. Turner has violated the terms of her agreement on reinstatement and that her continued licensure and practice as a registered dental hygienist at this time is not consistent with the public health, safety, and welfare. The Board will accept the voluntary surrender of respondent's license to practice dental hygiene. The Board will not consider any application for reinstatement of her license in the absence of a demonstration of a minimum of one year's continued counseling, attendance at AA/NA meetings, weekly, negative urine screens, and

enrollment in and compliance with the recommendations of the Professional Assistance Program. In addition, prior to any application for reinstatement, respondent must provide information regarding the disposition of the criminal charges now pending against her.

ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The license of Nicole C. Turner, R.D.H., to practice dental hygiene is surrendered effective immediately. Ms. Turner shall not engage in the practice of dental hygiene in this State unless and until her license is reinstated by the Board.
- 2. Prior to any application for reinstatement, respondent shall participate with the Professional Assistance Program and shall fully comply with the recommendations for treatment, including but not limited to monthly face to face contact with representatives from that program; attendance at support groups, including NA or AA; abstinence from all psychoactive substances, including alcohol, unless prescribed by a physician for a documented medical condition; urine monitoring; and psychotherapy, all as directed by the PAP. If respondent discontinues participation with the Professional Assistance Program or fails to comply with the conditions imposed by the program or outlined in this consent order, she shall be deemed ineligible to apply for reinstatement.
 - 3. Prior to any restoration of her license, respondent shall:
- a. Affirmatively demonstrate a minimum of one year of sobriety, as reflected by compliance with all PAP recommendations, including but not limited to negative urine screens:

- b. Appear before the Board or a committee of the Board to discuss her readiness to reenter the practice of dental hygiene. At that time respondent shall be prepared to propose her plans for future practice in New Jersey;
- c. Provide the Board with evidence that she is capable of discharging the functions of a licensee in a manner consistent with the public's health, safety and welfare and that she is not then suffering from any impairment or limitation resulting from the use of any CDS or other substance, whether legal or illegal, which could affect her practice;
- d. Provide the Board with reports from each and every mental health professional (including but not limited to: psychologists, counselors, therapists, psychiatrists) who have participated in respondent's care and/or treatment in this matter during the period of time from her entry into treatment until her appearance. Respondent shall provide any and all releases to any and all parties who are participating in a monitoring, treatment, or other program as outlined in this order, as may be required in order that all reports, records, and other pertinent information may be provided to the Board in a timely manner.
- e. Provide the Board with a report from the Professional Assistance Program detailing the nature and extent of her involvement with that entity and recommending reinstatement of her license;
- f. Provide the Board with a full account of her conduct during the intervening period of time from her entry into treatment to her appearance pursuant to this Order.

4. Nothing in this order shall be deemed to preclude the Board from taking any action, including disciplinary action, it deems appropriate should the Board's review of information cause it to determine that such action is warranted.

5. Respondent shall deliver her original license for the current renewal period to the State Board of Dentistry within seven (7) days of the entry of this order to Jonathan Eisenmenger, Executive Director, New Jersey Board of Dentistry, P.O. Box 45005, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Ms. Turner shall notify her employer(s) of the entry of this order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Maxine Feinberg, D.D.S

President

I have read and I understand the terms of this order and agree to be bound by it. I consent to the entry of this Order.

Nicole C. Turner, R.D.H.

I consent to the entry of this order as to form.

Laurence Leff, Esq.

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